

PATENT

154682-0004 Reissue

154682-0003 Reexam

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 19-76, add claim 77 and amend claims 1-18 (claims 1 and 10 are newly amended) all as shown below in the full set of all pending claims presented here in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.173(d) with all matter to be omitted by reissue enclosed in brackets and all matter to be added by reissue underlined.

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What I claim is:

1. (Thrice Amended, now as original) An automated merchandising system for computer software comprising:
 - a memory for storing software for distribution to customers;
 - a point of sale terminal including customer interface means for receiving a software select customer choice input;
 - means for writing the software selected by the customer from the memory onto a software carrier; and
 - means for associating an identification code with the selected software provided to the customer, said identification code comprising at least one of the following identification parameters: purchaser identification, point of sale identification and date of purchase,wherein said means for associating comprises means for embedding said identification code on the software carrier.
2. (Once Amended) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and also comprising means, associated with said customer interface means, for verifying means of payment.
3. (Original) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and also comprising means for printing manuals accompanying the software selected by the customer and dispensing same to the customer.
4. (Original) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and also comprising means for preventing copying of software copied onto the software carrier.
5. (Original) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and wherein said memory is located at a point of sale terminal.

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6. (Once Amended) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and wherein said memory is located at a location remote from a point of sale terminal and is connected therewith terminals by [means of]a modem.

7. (Original) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and comprising a plurality of point of sale terminals in communication with said memory.

8. (Original) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and wherein said memory also contains information used to print manuals.

9. (Twice Amended) An automated merchandising system for computer software according to claim 1 and wherein said point of sale terminal includes [means permitting] a modem for remote access by [a] the customer [via a modem].

10. (Twice Amended, now as original) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising means for dispensing said carrier bearing the software selected by the customer to the customer.

11. (Original) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and wherein said memory comprises a CD ROM.

12. (Original) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising means for generating a sales report in hard copy form including at least one of the following identification parameters: purchaser identification, point of sale identification, program identification, date of purchase, serial number for program copy.

13. (Original) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising means for generating and displaying a

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menu for enabling a potential customer to locate software in which he has a potential interest.

14. (Twice Amended) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising key word search means [enabling] for searching, by a potential purchaser, [to search] available programs via key words in their names or descriptions.

15. (Once Amended) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising:

demonstration computer means for [providing to a potential customer the opportunity for] operating the software by a potential customer prior to a decision to purchase.

16. (Once Amended) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising:

means for generating a sales report in hard copy form including at least one of the following identification parameters: purchaser identification, point of sale identification, program identification, date of purchase, serial number for program copy; and

means for generating and displaying a menu for enabling a potential customer to locate software in which he has a potential interest[, and wherein said means for associating comprises means for imbedding said identification code on the software carrier].

17. (Twice Amended) An automated merchandising system according to claim 1 and also comprising:

key word search means [enabling] for searching, by a potential purchaser, [to search]available programs via key words in their names or descriptions; and

demonstration computer means [for providing to a potential customer the opportunity] for operating the software by a potential customer prior to a decision to purchase.

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18. (Twice Amended) An automated merchandising system according to claim 16 and also comprising:

key word search means [enabling] for searching by a potential purchaser [to search] available programs via key words in their names or descriptions; and

demonstration computer means for [providing to a potential customer the opportunity for] operating the software by a potential customer prior to a decision to purchase.

Claims 19-76 are cancelled.

77. (Newly presented) An automated merchandising system for computer software comprising:

a memory for storing software for distribution to customers;

a point of sale terminal including customer interface means for receiving a software select customer choice input;

means for writing the software selected by the customer from the memory onto a software carrier; and

means for associating an identification code with the selected software provided to the customer, said identification code comprising at least one of the following identification parameters: purchaser identification, point of sale identification and date of purchase,

wherein said means for associating further comprises means for embedding said identification code on the software carrier.

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STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR CLAIM CHANGES**(37 C.F.R. §1.173(c))**

1. The status of the claims as a result of the amendment submitted herewith is:

Claims 1-18 and 77 are pending.

2. The support in the disclosure of the patent for the changes made to the claims:

The amendments made to original claims 1, 2, 6, 9 and 14-18 have been made to avoid potential ambiguities, and not for patentability. These claims remain fully supported by the specification in the same manner as original claims 1-18. Further support for the final element of claim 1 is provided in col. 3, lines 59-63. Claim 77 is the same as claim 1 with the addition of the word "further" and is supported in the same manner.